PATENT Atty. Dkt. No. WEAT/0313

HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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William F. Howard, et al.

Serial No.: 10/648,815

Confirmation No.: 4562

Filed:

August 26, 2003

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MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner:

Matthew J. Smith

Customer No.: 36735

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 21, 2006.

Jason C. Huang

Typed Name 46,222

Reg. No. if applicable

ignature

(713)623-4844 Telephone Number

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 21, 2006

In response to the Office Action dated April 21, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one-month set to expire on August 21, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0313/WBP, the fee of \$ 400.00 for 4 additional claims, including 1 independent claim, and for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 10 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

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